

Dear Veterans, Military Families and Supporters,  
Please find a number of resources below to benefit veterans and military families. They are not endorsed by my office, just a compilation of programs and services that come across my desk. Please feel free to share and vet according to your needs. If you have any events, programs, job opportunities, etc. that would benefit this group, please forward it to me. Thank you. Lisa

- [Howard County Commission for Veterans and Military Families Monthly Meeting](#) – **Thursday, May 4 from 7-8:30pm** at 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia
- [Fort Meade 100th Anniversary Gala](#) (Tickets now on sale)

Join us for a 100th Anniversary Gala in celebration of Fort George G. Meade's 100th birthday. This event will be held on 17 June 2017 from 6:30 p.m. to Midnight at Club Meade.

Guests will enjoy various entertainers and a delicious assortment of food while the history of Fort Meade is presented through unique décor and pieces of memorabilia from World War I, World War II, Vietnam, Global War on Terrorism and Cyber.

Ticket prices are as follows:

\$100 per ticket (General admission)

\$85 per ticket (DOD ID cardholders)

\$45 per ticket (Active Duty E1-E4).

Don't miss the opportunity to celebrate 100 years of Fort George G. Meade, purchase your tickets for this formal event at Club Meade today. Please call 301-677-6969 for more information.

- [Free acting ensemble classes for veterans with Chesapeake Shakespeare Company](#) – see flier for details
- [NAMI May Newsletter](#) – May is Mental Health Month
- **Tech Expo OPEN HOUSE - Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2:30 – 3:30 PM**  
Courtyard Marriott  
2700 Hercules Road  
Annapolis Junction, MD 20701  
**Full Scope Poly Only Must register above to attend**  
[www.techexpousa.com](http://www.techexpousa.com)

- [Fort Meade Military Spouse Workforce Prep Series](#) – May 2, 16, 19 and 23
- [Planning for the Future Legal and Financial Needs](#)  
by The Howard County Local Health Improvement Coalition  
**May 7, 12-2pm** Bridgeway Community Church  
FREE
- [Wellness Matters](#) - **May 12 9am-2pm** Ellicott City 50+ Center  
Healthy Aging workshop, Free
- [The Help Veterans Village Groundbreaking](#) – May 13, 3pm  
Perry Point VA Medical Center Village Area  
Perry Point, MD 21902  
75 affordable apartments for veterans and their families
- **Maryland Military Installation Council (MMIC) - May 15, 2017** at the State office building at 100 Community Place, Crownsville.  
For those attending their first meeting, ample free parking is available. Please RSVP to [drucilla.hollie@maryland.gov](mailto:drucilla.hollie@maryland.gov) or call 410-767-0595 if there are questions. Networking and refreshments will start at 8 A.M. and the program as of now is scheduled to begin at 8:30 A.M.
- [Three Rangers Golf Tournament](#) – **May 25**, 11am-9pm Piney Branch Golf Course  
The organization helps Veterans to become empowered. So many vets have fallen through the cracks in the system, and TRF steps in and helps out where we can...this includes providing mentors, short term no interest loans, helping to get housing for homeless veterans, tax preparation assistance, etc.  
Overview of organization
- **Memorial Day Ceremony and Time Capsule Dedication - Monday, May 29, 2017, 11am-12pm**  
Korean War Memorial  
Canton Waterfront park  
2903 Boston Street  
Baltimore, MD 21224
- [Conference for Those Who Serve Service Members, Veterans and Their Families](#) – **Wed June 14, 2017 8am-4pm**  
Anne Arundel Community College  
Pascal Center for the Performing Arts  
101 College Parkway  
Arnold, MD 21012

- [Eastern Shore Veterans Conference](#) – June 21, 8:30am-4:30pm
- [Western Maryland Veterans Conference](#) – May 18, 8:30-4:30, Rocky Gap, Flintstone, MD
- [Southern Maryland Veterans Conference](#) - May 31, 8:30-4:30 Accokeek , MD
- [50+ Connection Newsletter](#)
- [MDVA Newsletter, April 28](#)
- [Reserve Voice](#) – April 30, 2017
- [VFW Action Corps Weekly](#)
- [Blue Star Military Family Lifestyle Survey](#) - Make your voice heard by taking our survey between April 12 through May 19, 2017! The annual Blue Star Families Military Family Lifestyle Survey is the largest survey of its kind, used by policy makers in DC and across the country to learn about and meet the most pressing needs of military families like yours.

Last year, over 8,300 respondents contributed their voices to our 2016 Military Family Lifestyle Survey to provide a snapshot of the issues facing military family life. The more people who take the survey, the more useful a tool it is to help military families. Adding your voice really matters! The survey is easy to take. You can also help get the word out by encouraging active duty service members, veterans, and their families to take the survey. The more responses we get, the greater impact this survey will have! Please share this email now to increase participation.

- [As Seen in the New York Times](#) - Blue Star Families was highlighted recently in a New York Times article about how our annual Military Family Lifestyle Survey “has gained considerable influence among leaders in the armed forces and federal government.”
- [Veteran Choice Program Imposter Phone Line Fact Sheet](#)

- [Veterans Civic Health Index 2016](#)
- [Hospice of the Chesapeake Veterans Newsletter](#)  
 We are delighted to provide you with the spring edition of Hospice of the Chesapeake's Veterans' Newsletter. In this edition, we have:
  - A letter of gratitude to our community for helping us welcome home Vietnam Veterans who live in the area; over 1200 people joined us in this celebration of service.
  - A story about a group honor salute to honor 11 Veterans at Atria Manresa, an assisted living facility in Annapolis
  - Veteran Volunteer Spotlight on Bill Lovelace, a dedicated volunteer at Hospice of the Chesapeake, who has facilitated numerous honor salutes
  - Our plea for more quilters to sew patriotic quilts for Veterans in our care
  - A Save the Date for Veterans Day on Friday, November 10, 2017 in Bowie, MD. You won't want to miss this event to honor and express our gratitude to all Veterans who have served our great country.
- [Tips and Resources to Support Your Military Child](#)
- [Support Howard County Farmers Markets](#)
- [Mental Health Support for Service Members, Veterans and their Families](#)

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## **Free Guides to Help Your Members Hire Veterans, Reservists and National Guard Members**

### **Download one-page Flyer to Email to Your Members!**

With more than **one million service members leaving the military in the next five years** in addition to tens of thousands currently looking for full-time jobs, hiring veterans will continue to be a critical source of trained employees to fill the 'skills shortage'.



## Best Practices Guide for Small Employers in Recruiting and Hiring National Guard Members, Veterans and Reservists

This Edition of the Guide is tailored for smaller employers which rely on smaller HR functions and organization leaders to recruit new employees. It provides short summaries for each of 28 best practices along with suggested action steps and insights to give you a head start and help avoid time-wasting missteps. Links to government agencies and nonprofit resources are included. 20 Pages

**Free Download!**



## Best Practices Guide for Large Employers in Recruiting and Hiring National Guard Members, Veterans and Reservists

This Edition is for larger employers with more extensive recruiting resources and more formal HR procedures. The Guide presents 35 Best Practices in one-to-two page profiles, including a summary, the rationale and action steps for each. Brief descriptions of initiatives implemented by leading employers are included, as well as links to government and nonprofit resources. 41 Pages

**Free Download!**



## 2016 Federal Tax Benefits for Hiring and Employing Veterans, National Guard Members and Reservists

This Guide, prepared by the tax law firm of Caplin & Drysdale, provides a clear and concise understanding along with step-by-step guidance. It even includes links to the required IRS and DoL forms employers need to submit. Whereas most media articles generalize and leave out key eligibility and filing details, this guide includes what you need to know to decide if your company is eligible and how to file. 17 Pages

- Returning Heroes Tax Credit
- Wounded Warrior Tax Credit
- Activated Military Reservist Credit for Small Businesses
- Federal Empowerment Zone Employment Credit

**Free Download!**



## Guide for Federal Contractors to 2014 OFCCP Compliance Requirements Related to Veteran Hiring Under VEVRAA

This Guide, prepared by the law firm of Baker & McKenzie, provides a clear and concise understanding written in "business English" along with step-by-step guidance. It includes links to the OFCCP website for additional resources. Whereas most media articles generalize and leave out key details, this guide includes what you need to know to decide if your company is subject to the new veteran hiring requirements. 14 Pages

- Overview of VEVRAA
- Veterans Protected Under VEVRAA
- National Guard Members Who Are Protected Veterans
- Obligations of a Contractor Under VEVRAA
- The Written Affirmative Action Program (AAP)
- Reporting Requirements

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### • **New Major Feature Available For Your VOB (Veteran Owned Business) Profile!**

We are announcing an additional enhancement for your Veteran Owned Business Directory profile.

**NAICS Codes** (North American Industry Classification System) - **NAICS Codes** classify business establishments for the purpose of collecting, analyzing, and publishing statistical data related to the U.S. economy. The NAICS industry codes define establishments based on the activities in which they are primarily engaged.

If you are a government contractor, or are looking to get into contracting, we encourage you to log into your "myVOB Profile" to search for and add **NAICS Codes** to your listing related to your business' product/service offering(s).

We have 1,000s of procurement personnel and prime contractors who use our system to search for businesses that meet certain bid requirements. \*\*\*Our newest feature will give them even more reasons to try and do business with SDVOSBs and VOBs.

To activate this new feature, [view your profile with this link](#) and look for the new "Update this business" button (or [simply click this link](#) to go directly to myVOB). Log in with your **User Email** and **Password**. Then look for the **NAICS Code** search area (you can search by code or description).

You can see more information about VOB's newest feature, and detailed instructions on how to add NAICS Codes to your profile by [clicking this link](#).

If you have difficulty logging in to myVOB, or require assistance adding these new features, please give our support team a call at: (877) 862-5478, Ext. 2 and we will gladly help you out. Please be aware call volumes may be high. Feel free to leave a For Your Information.

- Maxisoft Corp is seeking wounded warriors and or service retired disabled veterans for several contract employment opportunities. The full details and qualifications are here. Send resumes directly to Mr. Keith Breedlove at [keith\\_breedlove@maxisoftcorp.com](mailto:keith_breedlove@maxisoftcorp.com) or call (571) 425-7404.

No clearance is necessary just training, background and or experience in HUMINT, COMINT, All Source and or Counterterrorism (CT). All candidates will undergo a Public Trust background investigation. The current salary ranges are from \$35K-\$45K annual.

- [FEMA Job openings](#)
- The Board of Directors for Blossoms of Hope is seeking a part-time development officer to help advance its beautification projects and support for cancer and other causes. The ideal candidate is a self-starter with a proven track record of fundraising success. Read more at [blossomsofhope.org](http://blossomsofhope.org)

- **Fort Meade Financial Readiness classes**

MAY

2nd Dollars and Sense 0900-1200

4th Marriage and Money 0900-1100

9th Banking Basics 0900-1100

16th Car Buying 0900-1100

23rd Credit Management 0900-1100

23rd First Term Financial Readiness (online class) 0800-1600

JUNE

6th Dollars and Sense 0900-1200

13th Thrift Savings Plan/ BRS 0900-1200

20th Home Buying 0900-1200

27th Consumer Awareness 0900-1100

27th First Term Financial Readiness (online class) 0800-1600

\*The eligible participants for these FREE classes are: Active Duty and Retired Military and their ID card Family Members, Reservists and National Guard (while on active duty) and their ID card Family Members, and DoD Civilians.\*

Visit [www.FortMeadeACS.checkappointments.com](http://www.FortMeadeACS.checkappointments.com) to register for classes.

**ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE**

830 Chisholm Ave

Fort George G. Meade, MD

Army: 301.677.5590

***CLASS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE***

- **VA Says Veterans May Now Apply in Advance for Burial in a Veterans Cemetery**

While most civilian cemeteries have long offered individuals the opportunity to buy a burial plot ahead of time, the VA has required that the families of veterans must wait to apply for burial until after the veteran has passed away. This policy has added to the stress families face when a loved one dies, even if the death was anticipated.

Finally, last week the VA announced it has changed its policy and will now allow veterans to apply prior to their deaths for burial in a veterans cemetery.

According to a VA press release, "Interested individuals may submit VA Form 40-10007, Application for Pre-Need Determination of Eligibility for Burial in a VA National Cemetery, and supporting documentation, such as a DD Form 214, if readily available, to the VA National Cemetery Scheduling Office by: toll-free fax at 1-855-840-8299 <tel:(855)840-8299> ; email to [Eligibility.PreNeed@va.gov](mailto:Eligibility.PreNeed@va.gov); or mail to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office, P.O. Box 510543, St. Louis, MO 63151.

"VA will review applications and provide written notice of its determination of eligibility. VA will save determinations and supporting documentation in an electronic information system to expedite burial arrangements at the time of need. Because laws and personal circumstances change, upon receipt of a burial request, VA will validate all pre-need determinations in accordance with the laws in effect at that time."

It was noted that this does not allow veterans to choose a particular plot within the cemetery, but only the cemetery where they wish to be buried. In addition, **this does not apply to Arlington National Cemetery**, which is run by the Department of the Army, not the Department of Veterans Affairs.

As a reminder, eligible individuals are entitled to burial in any open VA national cemetery, opening/closing of the grave, a grave liner, perpetual care of the gravesite, and a government-furnished headstone or marker or niche cover, all at no cost to the family. Burial benefits available for spouses and dependents buried in a national cemetery include burial with the Veteran, perpetual care,



and the spouse or dependents name and date of birth and death will be inscribed on the Veteran's headstone, at no cost to the family. Eligible spouses and dependents may be buried, even if they predecease the Veteran.

Veterans are also eligible for a burial flag and may be eligible for a Presidential Memorial Certificate. Information on VA burial benefits is available from local VA national cemetery offices, from the Internet at [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov) <<http://www.cem.va.gov>> <<http://www.cem.va.gov>> , or by calling VA regional offices toll-free at 800-827-1000 <[tel:\(800\)827-1000](tel:(800)827-1000)> . To make burial arrangements at any open VA national cemetery at the time of need, call the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 800-535-1117 <[tel:\(800\)535-1117](tel:(800)535-1117)> .

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*The Dept. of Community Resources and Services Office of Veterans and Military Families (DCRS/OVMF) does not endorse the organizations sponsoring these events, the views they express or the products/services they offer. The information serves as a DCRS/OVMF community outreach effort. If you wish to unsubscribe, please email [lbterry@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:lbterry@howardcountymd.gov).*

Lisa B. Terry, Manager, Howard County Office of Veterans and Military Families  
Administrator, Howard County Commission on Veterans and Military Families  
Howard County Government  
Department of Community Resources and Services  
6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 303  
Columbia, MD 21046  
Office: 410-313-6400  
Direct : 410-313-0821  
<http://www.howardcountymd.gov/veterans>

***The Department of Community Resources and Services provides vital human services through its offices of ADA Coordination, Aging and Independence, Children and Families, Community Partnerships, Consumer Protection, Local Children's Board, and Veterans and Military Families.***

***The Howard County Office of Veterans and Military Families (OVMF) provides guidance, information and access to the more than 20,000 veterans who live in Howard County, as well as their dependents and survivors, and military families. The OVMF also promotes activities for veterans of all ages and collaborates with other service providers to address more complex issues.***

**Howard County Commission on Veterans and Military Families** <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/vetcomm>

**Department of Community Resources and Services Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/HoCoCommunity/>

**Commission on Veterans and Military Families Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/HocoMilitary/>

**Reserved Veteran Parking Initiative**

Honor veterans living and working in Howard County by installing a Reserved Veteran Parking sign at your place of business or in honor of a loved one.

[http://www.howardchamber.com/chamber\\_information/veteran\\_parking\\_sign\\_initiative.aspx](http://www.howardchamber.com/chamber_information/veteran_parking_sign_initiative.aspx)